

Each year, American Farmers produce a vast quantity of agricultural goods that are consumed around the globe. Although West Virginia is a small state in terms of population, it plays a substantial role in American agriculture, generating nearly a half-billion dollars in agricultural sales annually.

Keeping track of the Mountain State's various agricultural products is a huge job – one ably handled by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service, West Virginia Field Office.

Recently, Director Dale King and the West Virginia Field Office staff finished compiling data for the Census of Agriculture, an in-depth report performed every five years of all facets of agriculture in the Mountain State. The information gathered is vital to state and national decision-makers who set agricultural policy and provide programs that benefit our farmers and, therefore, all of us.

If you operate a farm of any size, I encourage you to reply to any requests by the West Virginia Field Office for information. Yearly statistics are just as important during a non-census year to accurately depict the current agricultural production in the state. Your hard work deserves to be counted and your voice deserves to be heard!

Sincerely,



Gus R. Douglass
Commissioner of Agriculture



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